

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 NSC-07 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

USCINCEUR

USEUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222159

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, ET

SUBJECT: TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE FORWARDING MESSAGE FROM  
GENERAL AMAN TO SECRETARY OF STATE

REF: ADDIS 12072

SUMMARY: THE FOLLOWING AIDE MEMOIRE WAS DELIVERED ON  
OCTOBER 7 TO UNDER SECRETARY SISCO BY ETHIOPIAN MINISTER  
OF FINANCE NEGASH DESTA. IT CONTAINS A REQUEST THAT THE  
US INCREASE ITS MILITARY GRANTS AND CREDITS IN LIEU OF  
THE CASH SALES PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED. END SUMMARY.

QUOTE: 1. AT THEIR REQUEST, ATO NEGASH DESTA, MINISTER  
OF FINANCE, AND ATO KIFLE WODAJO, AMBASSADOR OF ETHIOPIA  
TO THE UNITED STATES, MET WITH THE HONOURABLE JOSEPH SISCO,  
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, AND REVIEWED WITH HIM THE COURSE  
OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE  
DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF MAP GRANT,  
SALES CREDITS AND CASH PURCHASE.

2. THE FINANCE MINISTER AND THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED THE  
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED  
TO TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE HONOURABLE HENRY  
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KISSINGER, SECRETARY OF STATE, FROM H.E. LIEUTENANT GENERAL

AMAN MICHAEL ANDOM, CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT:

INNER QUOTE: A) 'SINCE THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ETHIOPIA'S DESTINY, IT HAS REVIEWED THE RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS INITIATED WITH THE USG IN APRIL OF THIS YEAR. THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT FULLY SHARES THE GRAVE CONCERN PREVIOUSLY COMMUNICATED TO THE USG THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE INTRODUCTION BY AN EXTRA-CONTINENTAL POWER OF HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS INTO THE HORN OF AFRICA IN EXCESS OF THE LEGITIMATE DEFENCE NEEDS OF ANY OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA, ETHIOPIA CONTINUES TO FACE CRITICAL DANGER. UNLESS ETHIOPIA IS PREPARED TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE, THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES IS INEVITABLE. AS EVIDENCE IN OUR HANDS STRONGLY INDICATES, ETHIOPIA'S RELATIVE MILITARY WEAKNESS IN THE AREA HAS COME TO BE REGARDED AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE EXPLOITED BY THOSE WHO MAKE AN ILLEGAL AND UNJUST TERRITORIAL CLAIM ON HER.

B) THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO TAKE, ON URGENT AND PRIORITY BASIS, ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE COUNTRY'S DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY SO AS TO DISCOURAGE THE POTENTIAL ADVERSARY IN THE AREA FROM CARRYING OUT THE THREAT THAT IT HAS POISED AGAINST ETHIOPIA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY IN PURSUIT OF ITS AVOWED OBJECTIVE OF WRESTING AWAY A GOOD PART OF ETHIOPIA. IN PREPARING THE COUNTRY FOR THIS CHALLENGE - A DEFENSIVE CHALLENGE IT MUST BE EMPHASIZED - ETHIOPIA NEEDS THE CONTINUED COOPERATION OF FRIENDLY NATIONS.

C) IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS REVIEWED THE ON-GOING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USG FOR THE ACQUISITION OF NEW AND APPROPRIATE WEAPONS, ESPECIALLY THE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS WHICH SUCH ACQUISITION WOULD IMPOSE ON THE COUNTRY'S LIMITED RESOURCES. WHILE THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT WOULD SPARE NO EFFORT, NOR FLINCH FROM ANY SACRIFICE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE THAT OTHERS HAVE CREATED FOR THE

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COUNTRY, BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN PARTS OF ETHIOPIA, THE INCREASE IN OIL AND FERTILIZER PRICES WHICH HAVE IMPOSED ADDITIONAL STRAINS ON THE COUNTRY'S BUDGETARY RESOURCES, THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT DIVERTING CASH RESOURCES FOR THE PURCHASE OF WEAPONS AT THIS TIME WOULD PLACE A HEAVY BURDEN ON THE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE. BELIEVING THAT THE USG WILL FULLY APPRECIATE

THE SERIOUS FINANCIAL SACRIFICE THAT URGENT AND COMPETING NEEDS CALL FOR AT THIS TIME, THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS CONSTRAINED TO REQUEST THE USG WHETHER ADDITIONAL GRANT-AID AND SALES CREDITS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ETHIOPIA WITH A VIEW TO COVERING THE CASH PURCHASES ANTICIPATED IN THE NEGOTIATION.'END INNER QUOTE

3. BECAUSE OF THE URGENCY THAT THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO THIS REQUEST, THE FINANCE MINISTER AND THE AMBASSADOR HAVE INDICATED THAT THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY RESPONSE.

4. WHILE REQUESTING THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE TO KINDLY TRANSMIT THE ABOVE MESSAGE, THE FINANCE MINISTER AND THE AMBASSADOR ALSO CONVEYED THE PERSONAL GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES OF H.E. LIEUTENANT GENERAL AMAN MICHAEL ANDOM TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE. END QUOTE  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** MASS, ET, US  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA  
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